SDF Loans to Maharashtra for Cane Development

325. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to sate:

(a) whether a number of proposals for grant of Sugar Development, Fund loans from Government of Maharashtra for cane development in the State have been pending with Government;

(b) if so, the number and the details of such proposals at the beginning of 2003, 2004 and 2005 and loans sanctioned during each year; and

(c) the reasons for delay in processing and sanctioning of such loans to the detriment of the sugar growers in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Submission of applications and sanction of loans is a continuous process wherein loan proposals are considered by the Standing Committee on SDF and its sub committee *viz.* Screening Committee and thereafter on the recommendations of the Standing Committee the loans are sanctioned. There is a time-gap between receipt of loan proposals and sanction of the same. Only one valid loan proposal sent by Government of Maharashtra for cane development loan from Sugar Development Fund in the current year is under consideration for sanction of the Government.

(b) Cane development loan proposals of Government of Maharashtra pending with the Government at the beginning of 2003, 2004 or 2005 are placed at Annexure-IA, IB and IC respectively. Loans sanctioned during the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 for Cane Development to the Sugar Mills in Maharashtra is at Annexure-IIA, IIB and IIC respectively. [*See* Appendix 206, Annexure No. 5]

(c) There has been no delay in processing and sanctioning of complete and valid loan applications to the detriment of the sugar growers of Maharashtra.